



# TRICARE<sup>®</sup>

## *Your Military Health Plan*

### **Enhanced Access to Autism Services Demonstration**



Updated November 2011

## Today's Agenda

- Today, we will discuss the Enhanced Access to Autism Services Demonstration (Demonstration) including:
  - Details of the Demonstration
  - Who may qualify
  - How to register
- To be eligible for the Demonstration, your dependent must be registered in TRICARE's Extended Care Health Option (ECHO) program. During our presentation we will discuss:
  - Details of the ECHO program
  - Who may qualify
  - How to register
- We will also provide important contact information.



## Extended Care Health Option (ECHO)

- To be eligible for the Demonstration, an active duty family member (ADFM) must be registered in ECHO.
- ECHO is a program that provides financial assistance for ADFMs with specific qualifying mental or physical conditions.
- Eligible beneficiaries include:
  - ADFMs, including family members of National Guard and Reserve members activated for more than 30 days
  - Family members eligible for continued TRICARE coverage through the Transitional Assistance Management Program
  - Children or spouses of former service members who were victims of physical or emotional abuse
  - Transitional survivors



## Qualifying for ECHO

- There is no enrollment fee for ECHO, however eligible family members must:
  - Have an ECHO-qualifying condition
  - Enroll in the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)
  - Register in ECHO through ECHO case managers in each TRICARE region





## Qualifying for ECHO

- ECHO-qualifying conditions include:
  - Serious physical disability
  - Mental retardation
  - Extraordinary physical or psychological condition, including infants or toddlers diagnosed with a condition expected to result in mental retardation or serious physical disability
  - Multiple disabilities
  - Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs)



## Enhanced Access to Autism Services Demonstration (Demonstration)

- Provides TRICARE reimbursement for Educational Interventions for Autism Spectrum Disorders (EIAs) for ECHO-registered beneficiaries
  - ASDs affect behaviors such as social interaction, the ability to communicate ideas and feelings, imagination, and establishing relationships with others.
  - EIAs are treatments designed to improve behaviors affected by ASDs.
- Allows beneficiaries to have access to a greater range of these existing, evidence-based educational intervention services through an expanded network of EIA specialists
- Currently, the Demonstration is only available in the 50 United States and the District of Columbia.



## Eligibility

- The Demonstration is available to beneficiaries age 18 months and older who are enrolled in the EFMP and registered in ECHO.
- Beneficiaries must be diagnosed with one of the following:
  - Autistic disorder
  - Childhood disintegrative disorder
  - Asperger's syndrome
  - Pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified

**Note:** If diagnosed before this Demonstration began (*March 15, 2008*), dependents do not need to be re-diagnosed.

- Contact your regional contractor for more information.





## Covered EIA Services

- The Demonstration covers EIA services that:
  - Implement basic principles of applied behavior analysis
  - Focus on changing the child's behavior
  - Identify functional relationships between environmental events and behavior
  - Track progress in reaching objectives identified in the behavior plan and periodically modify the plan
  - Incorporate parent education
  - Require meetings between family members/caregivers and those designing and implementing the intervention program





## ECHO Costs

- The only costs associated with the Demonstration are monthly ECHO cost-shares. Active duty sponsors pay a cost-share that is based on their pay grade and is separate from other TRICARE program cost-shares.

| Sponsor's Pay Grade      | Monthly Cost-Share |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| E-1 to E-5               | \$25               |
| E-6                      | \$30               |
| E-7, O-1                 | \$35               |
| E-8, O-2                 | \$40               |
| E-9, WO/WO-1, CWO-2, O-3 | \$45               |
| CWO-3, CWO-4, O-4        | \$50               |
| CWO-5, O-5               | \$65               |
| O-6                      | \$75               |
| O-7                      | \$100              |
| O-8                      | \$150              |
| O-9                      | \$200              |
| O-10                     | \$250              |



## **ECHO Costs (*continued*)**

- The monthly cost-share is one fee per sponsor, not per ECHO beneficiary.
- The maximum government cost-share is \$36,000 per beneficiary, per fiscal year (FY) (*October 1–September 30*). Sponsors are responsible for the cost of ECHO benefits that exceed this limit.

**Note:** The ECHO Home Health Care benefit is **not** subject to the \$36,000 per FY maximum government cost-share. The sponsor's cost-share does not count toward the annual catastrophic cap. ECHO costs cannot be shared between family members.



## For Information and Assistance

### Stateside Regional Contractors

#### TRICARE North Region

Health Net Federal Services, LLC  
1-877-TRICARE (1-877-874-2273)  
[www.hnfs.com](http://www.hnfs.com)

#### TRICARE South Region

Humana Military Healthcare Services, Inc.  
1-800-444-5445  
[www.humana-military.com](http://www.humana-military.com)

#### TRICARE West Region

TriWest Healthcare Alliance  
ECHO Information and Referral Line  
1-866-212-0442  
[www.triwest.com/echo](http://www.triwest.com/echo)

### General Contact Information

TRICARE Web site: [www.tricare.mil](http://www.tricare.mil)  
Contacts: [www.tricare.mil/contacts](http://www.tricare.mil/contacts)  
Military Medical Support Office:  
[www.tricare.mil/tma/mmso](http://www.tricare.mil/tma/mmso)

### Overseas Regional Contractor

International SOS Assistance, Inc.

#### Eurasia-Africa:

+44-20-8762-8384 (*overseas*)  
1-877-678-1207 (*stateside*)

#### Latin America and Canada:

+1-215-942-8393 (*overseas*)  
1-877-451-8659 (*stateside*)

#### Pacific:

Singapore: +65-6339-2676 (*overseas*)  
1-877-678-1208 (*stateside*)  
Sydney: +61-2-9273-2710 (*overseas*)  
1-877-678-1209 (*stateside*)

Web site: [www.tricare-overseas.com](http://www.tricare-overseas.com)

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[www.tricare.mil/mediacenter](http://www.tricare.mil/mediacenter)

